

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

09/672,223

Examiner

Mujtaba K. Chaudry

Applicant(s)

LEE, YUN-SANG

Art Unit

2133

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to 04/15/2005.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 2-12, 14-16 and 18-21.
3. ☒ The drawings filed on 27 September 2000 are accepted by the Examiner.
4. ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.
THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

5. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
6. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
7. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date _____
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☒ Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date 7/5/05
7. ☒ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____


SHELLY CHASE
PRIMARY EXAMINER

 7/5/05

EXAMINER' S AMENDMENT

An Examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to Applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this Examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with John A Castellano on Tuesday, July 5, 2005.

Please amend the application as follows:

- Insert a period at the end of claim 3.

Reasons for Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 2, 4, 9-12 and 18-21 are allowed. The following is an Examiner reasoned statement:

Independent claim 2 of the present application teaches an integrated circuit device comprising: a plurality of internal circuits for generating a plurality of internal signals, the internal signals used for addressing storage locations and for controlling internal operations; a first selection circuit for receiving the internal signals in response to selection signals corresponding to test information signals; a second selection circuit for receiving output signals from the first selection circuit and output signals from a sense amplifier, and for opening an alternative one of transfer paths for the internal signals and output signals and the output signals of the sense amplifier in response to the selection signal and a data output buffer for transferring

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output signals from the second selection signals externally from the integrated circuit device through data input/output pads, the data input/output pads being shared by the internal signals and the output signals from the sense amplifier. The foregoing limitations are not found in the prior arts of record. The prior art of record, namely Surlekar, teaches a memory unit having an array of storage cells which has been divided into groups of storage cells, by performing processing functions and, especially the comparison function, in the vicinity of each group of storage cells which are under test. The testing procedure involves the storage of a selected logic signal, referred to as the expected data signal, in each addressable cell, the retrieval of the stored logic signal from each storage cell, and the comparison of the retrieved data signal with the expected data signal (supplied by the user) to verify that the storage into and retrieval from the storage cells provides the signal that was originally stored in the memory unit. None of the prior arts of record teach nor fairly suggest all the limitations in the independent claim 2 of the present application. In particular, the limitations of "...a second selection circuit for receiving output signals from the first selection circuit and output signals from a sense amplifier, and for opening an alternative one of transfer paths for the internal signals and output signals and the output signals of the sense amplifier in response to the selection signal..." are not taught or fairly suggested in the prior arts of record. Therefore independent claim 2 is allowed.

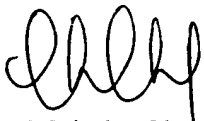
Independent claim 4 recites similar limitations of independent claim 2 and therefore is allowed for similar reasons.

Dependent claims 9-12 and 18-21 depend from independent claims 2 and 4 and inherently include limitations therein and therefore are allowed as well.

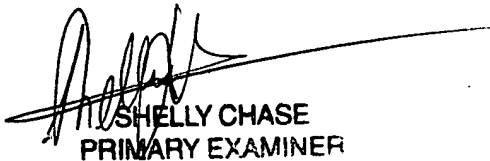
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Any inquiries concerning this communication should be directed to the examiner, Mujtaba Chaudry who may be reached at 571-272-3817. The examiner may normally be reached Mon – Thur 6:30 am to 4:30 pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, please contact the examiner's supervisor, Albert DeCady at 571-272-3819.



Mujtaba Chaudry
Art Unit 2133
July 5, 2005



SHELLY CHASE
PRIMARY EXAMINER